

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DR. STEVE KELLEY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 32 YEARS OF SERVICE AS A TEACHER AND ADMINISTRATOR IN THE GRANITE STATE

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Dr. Steve Kelley on his retirement after 32 years working in both the Inter-Lakes School District, and as the Principal at Conway Elementary School for 6 years.

Dr. Kelley's continuous progression within the education community from his time as a teacher at Inter-Lakes Elementary School, to his most recent position as Principal of Inter-Lakes Elementary School, exemplifies his dedication and professionalism, and I know he will remain an exceptional role model for students and faculty throughout New Hampshire.

The creativity, knowledge, and experience Dr. Kelley brought to schools throughout the Granite State has been invaluable, and it's clear he leaves an example of strong leadership for others to emulate in his wake.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Mr. Kelley on his retirement, and wish him the best on all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO PUEBLO EAST HIGH SCHOOL AND BAYFIELD HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAMS

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor both the Pueblo East High School and Bayfield High School football teams, who are the 2015 Colorado State Football champions of the Colorado High School Athletic Association's 3A and 2A divisions, respectively.

The Pueblo East Eagles defeated the Roosevelt Rough Riders, in a 57–30 rout in front of their fans at Dutch Clark Stadium in Pueblo, Colorado. With this victory, the Eagles are now back-to-back State champions, making them the latest in what is a long line of powerhouse high school football teams from the Steel City. The season began with East losing to a team they had beaten a year before, but their resiliency in the face of adversity saw them win 12 consecutive games en route to the state title, and making the Eagles Pueblo's only high school football team to have ever won consecutive state football championships.

The Bayfield Wolverines traveled to Kersey, Colorado and capped their perfect season with a hard fought 28–20 victory over the Platte Valley High School Broncos, winning their first state championship in football since 1996. The

last time Bayfield High School won a state championship in any sport was back in 2005, making this victory that much sweeter, and ensuring that the players and coaches of this season can look back and be proud of their hard work which ended the drought.

Mr. Speaker, the Pueblo East Eagles and the Bayfield Wolverines deserve a tremendous amount of recognition for their hard work. A football season in Colorado is filled with long trips over diverse terrain to play unfamiliar opponents, injuries, and the unpredictable elements that Colorado weather provides. With exceptional displays of grit and determination throughout their seasons, the Eagles and the Wolverines have brought an immense amount of pride to the Third Congressional District of Colorado. I am honored to represent these exceptional high schools and congratulate them for their recent accomplishments.

**HONORING DR. GREGORY L. EASTWOOD**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of Dr. Gregory L. Eastwood who served as President of the State University of New York Upstate Medical University from January 1, 1993 until June 2, 2006. At the time, Dr. Eastwood's tenure was noted as one of the longest in the history of the institution and the longest of all sitting presidents of the State University of New York State Operated campuses. Dr. Eastwood kindly answered the call to return to the President's seat in October 2013 when the campus was in need of experienced and capable leadership. Dr. Eastwood will now say farewell to the presidency of Upstate Medical University as he retires this year.

Dr. Eastwood currently serves on the SUNY Upstate Medical University Foundation Board of Directors. Dr. Eastwood teaches the Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues in Medicine course and the Clinical Bioethics course in the College of Medicine at SUNY Upstate. Dr. Eastwood also teaches ethics courses for the College of Graduate Studies, College of Nursing, and College of Health Professions. Dr. Eastwood has authored over 130 articles and book chapters and has written and edited several books. Dr. Eastwood has served the Central New York community for years with distinction, holding leadership roles and partnering with many different organizations in the region.

During Dr. Eastwood's first tenure as President he advanced an aggressive vision for the Upstate Medical University Campus which has fostered the growth of the clinical enterprise through the establishment of the University Health Care Center, the Joslin Diabetes Center, and an expansion that included the Golisano Children's Hospital. He also sup-

ported the educational mission of the campus by supporting a new College of Medicine curriculum, the establishment of the Center for Bioethics and Humanities, and many other projects that supported the educational mission of the campus. During Dr. Eastwood's second tenure he revamped SUNY Upstate Medical University's relationship with SUNY Central Administration and undertook all projects with the explicit goal of leaving the institution in a better place for the next President.

Dr. Gregory L. Eastwood has had a remarkable career, serving at multiple prominent medical schools and influencing the medical community with his participation on countless organizations' boards and committees. Dr. Eastwood has served the SUNY Upstate community and the medical community honorably and he will be missed greatly. On behalf of the entire Central New York community, I would like to thank Dr. Eastwood for his passion and dedication to a community that greatly respects him and is stronger now because of his work.

**HONORING PRINCIPAL STEVE HOPE FOR THE 2015 INDIANA PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR**

**HON. JACKIE WALORSKI**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Principal Steve Hope of Penn High School for being named the 2015 Indiana High School Principal of the Year. His success in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students at Penn is nothing short of remarkable.

Every year, the Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP) recognizes outstanding principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students. Recipients are chosen based on their performance in showing leadership at the building level, at the district and community level, and at the state level. Every one of us depends on our teachers, and because of that, they deserve our support and appreciation.

For nearly 20 years, Principal Hope has been contributing to the betterment of Indiana education. Since he became the principal of Penn High School in 2008, Indiana's Department of Education has named Penn an A-rated school and a 4-Star Award winner. U.S. News and World Report also named Penn an Outstanding High School in 2009 and 2015. Because of leaders like Principal Hope, Hoosier classrooms are filled with future doctors, scientists, and entrepreneurs.

Principal Hope's efforts have been instrumental in advancing Indiana's education system. In 2010, he initiated the reorganization of Penn from a traditional high school to personalized approach through a \$1.7 million dollar

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

federal grant. This program begins with the Freshman Academy, which helps middle school students acclimate to high school, and offers six other academies which support college and career readiness. This includes Fine Arts & Communications, Management & Business, Health and Human Services, STEM, World Languages, and the Early College Academy. Contributions like these would not be possible without the efforts of passionate educators like Principal Hope.

This smaller learning community structure is successful because of Principal Hope's dedication to both the students and the teachers. As a leader, he sees that students excel when they are taught by highly engaged and trained teachers and staff. Because of this, Principal Hope's vision also focuses on professional development for teachers. Quite simply, his work is bettering the lives of Hoosiers.

I want to take this opportunity to once again thank Principal Hope for helping students and teachers at Penn develop their talents and become our future leaders. On behalf of myself and my fellow Hoosiers, I congratulate him on receiving this prestigious award.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHEA  
HASSELL, PERRY ANCELL AND  
CODY COULTER

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank three power linemen from Coserv Electric Cooperative from the 26th District of Texas for their service and sacrifice to help three communities far away from their own.

This fall, Shea Hassell, Perry Ancell and Cody Coulter traveled to Haiti where they spent three weeks volunteering to help build the country's first electric cooperative. This work was part of a rural electrification project through the NRECA International Foundation with support from the United Nations Environmental Program and USAID.

During their time in the southwestern part of the country, they built a diesel-solar hybrid electric system which now provides safe, affordable and reliable power to 1,600 consumers in three towns. Their contributions included upgrading and installing new power lines and training locally hired linemen in proper construction methods and safety practices.

In Haiti, less than 15 percent of the population has regular access to electricity. Reliable electricity is a critical element in improving the quality of life and to providing healthcare, education, access to clean water and economic opportunity.

Thanks to the contribution of these power linemen more people in Haiti will now have electricity.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF HOWARD COBLE

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend

Howard Coble, who passed away on November 3, 2015. I join the countless North Carolinians who send our prayers and sincere condolences to his family and friends during this difficult time.

Howard was the embodiment of what it means to be a public servant and is a shining example for those who follow in his footsteps. He was a true Southern gentleman who genuinely cared about bettering the lives of those around him and dedicated his life to serving North Carolina. For his constituents, Howard spent every day of his 30 years in Congress ensuring their thoughts were clearly heard in Washington. What is even more impressive is that he consistently did so with the utmost honor, integrity and kindness.

Howard was known as a passionate leader who was guided by his conservative values and principles. He made it his purpose to serve his constituents with a steadfast commitment to ensuring that government works for the people and not the other way around. Furthermore, Howard was never afraid to reach across the aisle and had many strong friendships with Democrats and Republicans alike. A beloved son of North Carolina, he will be deeply missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him, but we should find comfort in knowing Howard has found peace with our Savior.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in remembering the life of Congressman Howard Coble and celebrating his positive legacy that will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on many generations of North Carolinians.

TRIBUTE TO RYAN MOORE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ryan Moore. Mr. Moore teaches science at the Liberty Point International School in Pueblo West, Colorado, where every day he engages and motivates his students through his unique high-energy teaching style that has resulted in improved achievement scores for his students. In recognition for his hard work and dedication in the classroom, Mr. Moore was recognized recently as one of only 40 educators nationwide to receive the prestigious Milken Education Award. He was the sole recipient from Colorado this year. Mr. Moore's passion for teaching not only keeps his students engaged and interested in learning, but has also consistently improved their performance over the course of his seven year tenure.

Mr. Moore's public service extends beyond teaching. He is a former United States Army Staff Sergeant, with 10 years of service that included three deployments to Iraq. Mr. Moore credits the leadership qualities he developed in the military as helping him succeed in the classroom, earning him a reputation as a well-respected educator among both students and his peers. Mr. Moore is also active in his community, volunteering his free time with the Boy Scouts of America and the Pueblo West Department of Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Moore is an incredible individual with an exceptional history of selfless service. He has a limitless ability to inspire the

students he teaches and represents the best of educators in the Third Congressional District of Colorado. I am confident that Mr. Moore will continue to be a tremendous asset to his students and the Pueblo West community. I want to thank him for his service and wish him continued success for many years to come.

INCREASING CHARITIES' ACCESS  
TO FUNDS

**HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, charitable remainder trusts present an opportunity for donors to transfer assets for the benefit of charity. Lack of certainty regarding the tax consequences of early terminations of these trusts has deterred early terminations, which has deferred the transfer of substantial assets to charity. Early terminations of charitable remainder trusts should be encouraged because they permit charities to access their share of the trust's assets earlier (and, in some instances, decades earlier) than otherwise would be the case. This is particularly compelling given that, under current economic conditions, many charities have been forced to cut back on many deserving programs.

My bill provides that, on an early termination of a charitable remainder trust, the donor and the charity will apportion the value of the trust using the same methodology that was used to determine the value of the remainder interest on formation. The donor will recognize capital gain on the total value received, the charity will receive its share of the trust's assets, and the early termination will not constitute self-dealing or otherwise disqualify the charitable remainder trust.

Today, Rep. RANGEL and I are introducing this bill which clarifies the tax consequences of early terminations of charitable remainder trusts and encourages the early transfer of funds in such trusts to charities. Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support our bill to give charities earlier access to funds for use in their worthwhile endeavors.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR  
UKRAINE

**HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as a proud representative of a vibrant Ukrainian community in my district, I rise to echo the requests of an extremely important and time-sensitive meeting with the administration where the Ukrainian community pleaded for necessary humanitarian assistance for Ukraine.

The global community continues to mourn the horrific terrorist attacks in Paris. These attacks remind us of the importance of our freedom and democracy in our turbulent world—these values must be actively safeguarded each day. Ukraine has been doing just that: fighting for its democracy and freedom each

day—denouncing Russian authoritarianism and combating Putin's aggression. Ukrainians are on the ground battling Russian separatists and thugs attempting to steal their democratic freedoms and undermine their self-governance.

As a result, Ukraine has suffered 7,883 deaths and 17,610 wounded citizens, according to OCHA's latest report. Five million Ukrainians have been affected by Russia's aggression. It is shocking that this number is hardly discussed. One million Ukrainians have fled Ukraine since 2014, and 1.5 million Ukrainians are considered Internally Displaced People. And these numbers continue to rise.

Ukraine needs more humanitarian assistance, and they need it now. Winter is fast approaching. Time is running out for winterization. Temperatures will plummet to 0 degrees and below. Eastern Ukraine has already experienced its first snowfall. We must act before it is too late.

Today, many Ukrainians have little to no access to humanitarian assistance because very few humanitarian partners have received authorization from the de facto authorities in Donetsk and Luhansk to operate. Restrictions on freedom of movement have resulted in civilians waiting 24 hours before they can cross checkpoints across the ceasefire line which will be impossible to do in the winter. Additionally, a recent assessment has discovered that 20 percent of Internally Displaced People reside in destroyed or damaged homes. These homes need rebuilding materials now as temperatures continue to drop.

These crucial humanitarian supplies need to be airlifted to Ukraine, and the United States should expand its efforts in helping to provide these supplies. It is becoming ever more critical by the day. Let's bring more humanitarian assistance to our partner in democratic freedom, Ukraine, immediately—before the death toll increases any higher.

#### TRIBUTE FOR KATRINA RUGGLES

### HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Katrina Ruggles. Ms. Ruggles is a school counselor at Center School in Center, Colorado and has recently been awarded the Colorado Secondary Counselor of the Year for 2015 by the Colorado School Counselor Association.

School counselors throughout Colorado compete for this award and the recipient must demonstrate leadership, professionalism, as well as a willingness to assist in students' ability maximize their personal, social, and academic development. Amongst these qualities, the counselor must demonstrate evidence of implementation of a comprehensive, data-driven counseling program as well as holding responsibility for further development of programs supporting students' career, personal, social and academic development.

Ms. Ruggles is an outstanding counselor, who has served in Center, Colorado schools for 14 years. Not only has she been a statewide name among professionals but she has become a successful grant writer, earning close to \$300,000 in scholarships for students year after year.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Ruggles' passion and drive to help her students succeed should not go overlooked. Students living in rural areas can often find themselves with limited resources. Ms. Ruggles' dedication to her students' success ensures that limited resources do not hinder their academic experience. Ms. Ruggles exemplifies the best qualities of academic professionals from the Third Congressional District of Colorado, and I congratulate her for her achievement and wish her continued success in the future.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ART KIESEL

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Art Kiesel for his eight years of service on the Foster City City Council, twice as Mayor and twice as Vice Mayor. Foster City is losing an outstanding public servant and advocate for well-reasoned public policy, as well as a man widely known for his kindness and sense of humor.

During his tenure, Art supported many city initiatives that were instrumental in shaping Foster City for the better for many years to come. The parks system was built out as Werder Park and Destination Park were completed this year. In 2014, the city's smoking ordinance was implemented. In recent years, the city entered into a fire management shared services model with San Mateo and Belmont, delivering operational efficiencies for residents while strengthening department performance. The city established a gatekeeper ordinance for development projects to create an early vetting process for large developments. It also added a synthetic softball/soccer field at Edgewater Park and a 15-acre site was sold and developed into the new Foster Square. Phase II of the Levee Pedway Repair project was completed in 2009 and in 2013 Phase III was finished. The city also installed a synthetic soccer/baseball field at Sea Cloud Park and a synthetic soccer field/walking track at Port Royal Park, all during Art's tenure on the council. The construction of the VIBE Teen Center, a favorite hangout for 6th–12th graders after school and on weekends, was also completed during Art's time on the council.

The city is embarking on a multi-year effort to increase the height of the levee that protects Foster City, an urgent improvement in an era of rising seas. Art Kiesel has been a strong proponent of this project and of protecting his community for decades to come.

Foster City has a reputation for outstanding financial management. Art and his colleagues on the council have delivered strong financial performance through times that were both good and bad. This stewardship earned the trust of residents, as was demonstrated when the voters approved Business License Tax Measure U and a 10% transient occupancy tax.

It is important to note that serving on a city council is essentially a volunteer job. You would not recognize it as such when reviewing Art Kiesel's additional duties as a councilmember. He served on the Association of Bay Area Governments, the Legislative Committee of C/CAG, the Airport Community

Roundtable, the Council of Cities, the League of California Cities, the city's Audit Committee and Arts and Culture Committee, was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and served as the council's liaison to the San Mateo Union High School District. Art Kiesel is basically the Eveready Energizer Bunny of city councilmembers.

Art and his wife Janis have lived in Foster City for 24 years. They have two sons, Scott and John, and two granddaughters. Art is a third generation San Franciscan and was raised in the city until he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1965.

While Art has been a successful financial consultant for almost 30 years with some of the largest businesses in the Bay Area as his clients, he has always made it a priority to serve the community. His civic engagement began in 2000 when he served on the Information Technology Advisory Committee for four years. He continued on the Traffic Review Committee and the Planning Commission. He graduated from the Foster City Citizens Police Academy in 2002 and the Community Emergency Response Team in 2007. His community involvement has been just as extensive as he has been involved with the Lions Club, Canine Companions for Independence and San Mateo 4-H Clubs for decades.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor a great man, public servant and good friend. Art Kiesel stands for integrity, commitment and perseverance. He will be missed in Foster City's public life, but his contributions will make Foster City a stronger and more vibrant community for decades to come.

#### TO HONOR THE SERVICE OF CONCORD CITY COUNCILMAN JAMES E. "JIM" RAMSEUR

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor James E. "Jim" Ramseur of Concord, North Carolina, for his more than twenty years of service to our community on the Concord City Council.

Jim was first elected to the Concord City Council in 1995 and has served on the Council five consecutive terms. During this time, he served as Mayor Pro-Tem from 1997–99, 2007 and 2013. Jim is a native of Concord, graduating from Concord High School and attending the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Jim honorably served our nation for four years in the United States Air Force before going on to a successful business career, where he retired as CEO of Turner-Baxter, Incorporated. In a sign of things to come in his future community leadership, Jim joined the Concord Jaycees in 1973 and within the next year was appointed to the Concord Planning and Zoning Board. He eventually became President of the Concord Jaycees and received the Distinguished Service Award from the organization in 1977. Continuing to be an active member of our community, Jim has served on the Board of Directors of Concord Downtown Development Corporation, and Historic Cabarrus Association, Inc.

As anyone who knows Jim is well aware, he is seen by most folks in Concord as one of the city's foremost historians. He was the Vice Chairman of the City's very successful 1996 Bicentennial Committee and has amassed an impressive collection of historic photographs of Concord that he regularly contributes to the Concord Independent Tribune. Additionally, Jim played a large role in the final design of the new Concord City Hall, which retains many qualities from the design of the 1902 city hall, including the unique tower with the words "City Hall" on the glass.

Jim's steady leadership has seen Concord maintain a low tax rate while its population has more than doubled from the 42,000 people who lived in the city when he was first elected in 1995. During a time that saw our area lose thousands of textile and manufacturing jobs while still increasing in population, Jim and the rest of the City Council were instrumental in continuing infrastructure development, growing city schools and recruiting new industry to Concord. Because of his hard work and dedication, Concord's future looks brighter than ever.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in thanking James E. "Jim" Ramseur for his esteemed service on the Concord City Council and wishing him well as he opens the next chapter in his storied life.

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HONORING ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS NEWTOWN DIVISION 2  
25TH ANNIVERSARY

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**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the initials AOH may tell the story best. Some say the initials stand for, "Add One Hour"—describing the easygoing, no rush attitude of many of its members. Others believe AOH, "America's Only Hope" has been used to define the loyalty of the Irish to the principles of their adopted land. In either case, its members would certainly all agree, that to be Irish, is indeed, a blessing. To be a Hibernian is an Honor.

I offer my gratitude and congratulations to the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Newtown, Division 2, for 25 years of working in harmony with the doctrines of the Catholic Church and fostering a sense of loyalty to country among its members.

AOH, Newtown Division 2, proudly hosts the "Halfway to St. Patrick's Day Kilt Tilt Run, Warrior Walk and Festival", featuring the Annual Joe McGinnis Scholarship 5K in addition to the annual Celtic Kilt Night fundraiser for local food banks.

Past president of the Bucks County Board of the AOH and Newtown Division 2 member, "The Irish Godfather of Bucks County," Joseph W. McGinnis, Jr. would be proud of the work that has continued in his name.

Once again, thank you and congratulations to AOH, Newtown Division 2 for 25 years of friendship, unity and Christian charity.

HONORING THOMAS LEE  
MITCHELL, SR.

**HON. TODD C. YOUNG**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today we honor Thomas Lee Mitchell, Sr. for his service to his country and to his community.

Mitchell served with the 27th Marines while in Vietnam from December 1965 through December 1968. While in the employ of his country, Mitchell and his compatriots came under fire by North Vietnamese troops in the early morning of May 5, 1968.

A firefight ensued and, after a barrage of North Vietnamese mortar rounds, an American weapons platoon tent became engulfed in flames. Mitchell stormed into the conflagration amid exploding ammunition and carried a badly wounded Marine, who was trapped in the tent, to safety.

Later that same day, Mitchell's company was ordered to begin an assault on two villages. The platoon embarked on the mission and eventually encountered an open trench—which was riddled with North Vietnamese soldiers. North Vietnamese soldiers lobbed grenades at the American troops from the trench; in response, Mitchell and two of his fellow Marines fired their weapons into the trench, killing the entire line of North Vietnamese soldiers. With the trench cleared of enemy fire, the American platoon was able to proceed with the attack on the villages.

Mitchell was awarded a Bronze Star for his actions. In addition, Mitchell also earned, among others, a Purple Heart, a Good Conduct Medal, a National Defense Service Medal, Combat Action Ribbons, and a Presidential Unit Commendation Ribbon.

Mitchell coached little league baseball from 1975 until 1985. He is currently a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Charlestown and the VFW.

It is a privilege to award Thomas Lee Mitchell with Congressional Commendation, and ensure his story is preserved for future generations.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll call numbers 657, 659, 660, 661, 662, and 663, I was unavoidably detained off of the House floor. Therefore, I was unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NO.

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IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA  
PIERCE

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**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Barbara Pierce for her 16 years of outstanding

service on the City Council of Redwood City, including one term as Mayor and one term as Vice Mayor. Barbara is the consummate public servant, never tiring of looking for ways to improve the city and the quality of life of its residents.

During her four terms on the council, she served on many committees and represented Redwood City before many organizations—most of them as chair at one point—including the Peninsula Division of the League of California Cities, the League Housing Community Economic Development Committee, C/CAG's Congestion Management Environmental Quality Committee, the Bay Area Water Supply Conservation Agency, the Resource Management Climate Protection Committee, the Association of Bay Area Governments, the Redwood City 2020 Coordinating Council, the Grand Boulevard Task Force and the Bair Island Task Force.

Conservation and environmental protection are core values of Barbara Pierce. She is the spiritual leader of Redwood City's purple pipes project that brought recycled water to Redwood Shores long before our drought made water conservation a necessity. At first, it wasn't easy educating the public about the need to use recycled wastewater, but Barbara's persistent and earnest efforts persuaded the public to choose wisdom in the use of resources over skepticism based upon ignorance. The experiment began in 2000 but really took off in 2007 when the city expanded the pipes throughout Redwood Shores through pump stations. The recycled water project saves hundreds of millions of gallons of drinking water each year, and leaves Redwood Shores as one of the few areas of green landscaping during the current drought.

Barbara has played a significant role in just about every modern decision and process that has shaped Redwood City and made its vibrant downtown a reality. She played a leadership role in the creation of Courthouse Square, the restoration of the entry to the San Mateo County History Museum, Theatre Way and the retail cinema complex. She was also instrumental in the building of the Redwood Shores Library and the Redwood Shores Child Care Center. She worked hard to address traffic congestion, housing, climate change, water supply, and public safety issues, and to build a successful and sustainable community. Her secret to success is collaboration. She strives to work with members of the community and to find a way for everyone to win.

Her ethic of conservation is a direct consequence of her concern about future generations. In addition to her council duties, Barbara led efforts for 25 years at the Redwood City Education Foundation and saved an outdoor education program and created a music program for 3,500 students.

She has served on the board of the San Mateo County Historical Association, the Community Emergency Response Team, the Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Business Group and ARTS RWC. She is also a long-time Girl Scout leader, classroom volunteer and site council member. Barbara has a big heart and her love of Redwood City is only secondary to her love of her family.

She was born in Baltimore, Maryland and grew up in Fair Lawn, New Jersey. She graduated with a B.A. and M.A. in Psychology from Moravian College and Catholic University of America, respectively.

Thirty-five years ago she and her husband Jerry made Redwood City their home. They have two grown daughters, Andrea Koenig and Amanda Pierce, both of whom have made them very proud.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Barbara Pierce for her unwavering commitment to the residents of Redwood City. A compassionate steward of the interests of children and the environment, a stalwart supporter of strong public safety services, and a woman who dedicated tens of thousands of hours of her personal time to the interests of others, Barbara is now leaving for some well-deserved rest. It is beyond her ability, however, to simply retire, and retirement for Barbara Pierce will likely involve watching her former council colleagues on the local community access channel rather than being there in person. Barbara Pierce never earned an Emmy for her performance on the City Council, but she earned the love and respect of her community, an award that counts for much more than a statue, and an award that will echo throughout generations yet to come.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF DEPUTY  
SHERIFF BEN BAILEY'S SERVICE  
TO UNION COUNTY, NORTH  
CAROLINA

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Union County Chief Deputy Sheriff Ben Bailey for his faithful service over the last 30 years to the citizens of Union County, located in North Carolina's 8th Congressional District. Chief Deputy Sheriff Bailey will be stepping down from his position at the Union County Sheriff's Office in order to pursue a unique career opportunity as a Federal Bureau of Investigation Fellow at the National Counter Terrorism Center in Washington, DC.

Chief Deputy Bailey has dedicated himself to serving and protecting his community throughout his 30 year career in law enforcement. Of those 30 years, he held the position of Chief Deputy Sheriff in Union County for the last 13 years, which makes him the longest serving Chief Deputy Sheriff in Union County's history. In this role, Chief Deputy Bailey served as the second-in-command to the Sheriff of Union County and was responsible for the management of a 300 member law enforcement agency.

In addition to his responsibilities within the Union County Sheriff's Office, Chief Deputy Bailey has also been actively involved in the broader law enforcement community in North Carolina. In 2011, he was given the honor to serve as the North Carolina Chapter President of the FBI National Academy Associates Executive Board. He also serves on several community college boards, such as the Cybercrime Advisory Board at both South Piedmont Community College and Stanly Community College, as well as the Alumni Executive Board of the Justice Academy's Management Development Program under the North Carolina Department of Justice. Chief Deputy Bailey also participates in the FBI's Joint Terrorism Taskforce, the U.S. Secret

Service's Electronic Crime Task Force, and is a Department of Homeland Security certified instructor in Weapons of Mass Destruction awareness-level response.

Chief Deputy Bailey has been a devoted member of the Union County community, even when he is not in uniform. Chief Deputy Bailey is a state certified criminal justice instructor, using his gifts as an educator to teach students at South Piedmont Community College about the basics of law enforcement and how to effectively manage a law enforcement agency. He has also served on several local boards, including the Union County Chapter of the American Red Cross and the United Way. Our state and local community have greatly benefitted from his servant leadership, both as an officer of the law and as an extraordinary citizen.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in thanking my friend Chief Deputy Sheriff Ben Bailey for his outstanding service to the people of Union County and wishing him well as he moves on to the next chapter of his distinguished career.

TRIBUTE TO ANNA KILLPACK

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Anna Killpack of Neola, Iowa, for her selection as the 22nd annual LIFE Group Mother Mary Vincent McDermott Award honoree. The award is sponsored by the CHI Health Life Group. Anna received this award for her commitment, compassion, and dedication to helping those with mental illness.

When Anna's son was diagnosed with schizophrenia at age 13, Anna became passionate about working and advocating for individuals with mental illnesses. Since then, she has gone above and beyond her calling to stand up for those who need it most. Anna has volunteered on a number of Iowa's mental health committees and councils as a tireless advocate.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Anna for her years of hard work and dedication. Her contributions have been invaluable to Iowa's mental health community. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Anna for her accomplishments in advocating for mental health treatment and understanding, and I wish her nothing but continued success.

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, AMERICAN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE  
FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, the Houston Cougars capped off their thrilling season with a 24-13 win against the tough Temple Owls in the American Athletic Conference Championship Game. Though Houston only won by 11, the team led

from the opening gun until as Willie Nelson says "The Party was Over". With this win, the Cougars finished the regular season 12-1 and now have a matchup against the Number 9 Florida State Seminoles in the Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl to look forward to.

What's most amazing about the Cougars' successful season is the fact that it was engineered by a rookie head coach. Tom Herman, a national championship winning offensive coordinator at Ohio State and recipient of the Broyles Award for the nation's top assistant coach, stepped in as a first-time head coach this season. Success like that in a coach's first season is hard to come by. Herman's Houston team was led by its do-it-all quarterback, Greg Ward Jr., who finished the season with 2,590 passing yards, 16 touchdowns, and only 5 interceptions. The all-conference quarterback also tacked on 1,041 rushing yards and 19 touchdown runs for good measure. The excitement of watching this team play had me reminiscing back to 1989, when Coach Jack Pardee's run-and-shoot offense led the Cougars to a 9-win season and quarterback Andre Ware took home the Heisman Trophy.

Mr. Speaker, Tom Herman and the Houston Cougars aren't finished yet. After the Cougars' New Year's Eve duel with perennial powerhouse Florida State, the team will refocus its sights on coming back strong again next year. With the Cougars locking in Coach Herman to a contract extension and returning many of its key contributors, this team will be a force next year and hopefully for years to come. As a University of Houston alum, I look forward to spending December 31st ringing in the New Year with friends, family, and another Cougars victory. Go Cougars.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN  
FREDERICK PETERS

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Captain Frederick Peters of Edison, New Jersey on his 50th year of service to the Edison Police Auxiliary. Captain Peters' outstanding commitment to the organization and community will be honored at the Auxiliary's Annual Holiday Dinner on December 19, 2015 and it is my privilege to join them in recognizing this remarkable achievement.

Captain Peters joined the Edison Police Auxiliary on August 1, 1966. Throughout his 50 years as a volunteer officer, Captain Peters has distinguished himself as a leader, holding positions as Sergeant, Lieutenant and Captain. Currently Captain of Administration, Captain Peters maintains his commitment to serving the organization.

Captain Peters has dedicated his life to serving his community and nation. In addition to his service to Edison, Captain Peters is a veteran of the United States Navy. Captain Peters received an honorable discharge from the Navy after 3 years and 2 months of active duty aboard the USS *Harwood*. From his service to our country to his service to his community, Captain Peters continues to exhibit an unwavering commitment to duty.

Mr. Speaker, once again, it is my great honor to pay tribute to Captain Frederick

Peters for his 50 years of service to the Edison Police Auxiliary and I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in thanking Captain Peters for his honorable service to our great nation. His remarkable dedication and duty to his community and nation are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID  
BRAUNSTEIN

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor David Braunstein for his eight years of service on the Belmont City Council, once as Mayor in 2009 and again in 2015. Mayor Braunstein leaves with a distinguished legacy of service to the residents of Belmont.

During his tenure on the council, he served as a member of the Joint Notre Dame de Namur and Belmont City Council committee, the city's audit committee, is the former chair of the library community task force, former chair of the library steering committee and former chair of the library bond committee. David Braunstein has also been a board member of the Center for Independence of the Disabled, and was a member of the city's economic development committee.

Education is a core value in Belmont. David Braunstein is deeply committed to this value as evidenced by his career as a teacher at Carlmont High School and through his related council activities. While on the council, he has served as part of the city-school district committee known as 2 + 2 which identifies ways in which the district and city may collaborate to the benefit of Belmont residents.

Belmont is a city filled with the joyful sounds of children laughing. Three of those children are Mayor Braunstein's: Isaac, Noah and Yakira. They attend Ralston Middle School and Fox Elementary School where David and his wife, Patricia, are actively involved in school life. Even though he is incredibly busy as Mayor and as a teacher, David Braunstein made time in his life to be an AYSO and Little League coach, and served as a volunteer football coach at Carlmont High School. For David Braunstein, kids count.

Community building is in Mayor Braunstein's DNA. He has served on the National Night Out Planning Committee and helped to create one of the largest National Nights Out on the Peninsula. He is a tireless advocate to make our neighborhoods better and safer places, and served on the San Mateo County Emergency Services Council.

During his time on the council, Mayor Braunstein has conducted himself in a collaborative manner, both with his council colleagues and elected officials from other cities. He is proud to have been part of purchase of Ralston Avenue Vista Point which offers incredible views. The city purchased 34 acres, sold some land, made a profit and was able to preserve open space.

David was born in San Jose. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Political Science at UCLA and his Master's in Public Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon University. He also holds a California Teacher Credential from San Francisco State University.

After his retirement from the city council, David Braunstein is looking forward to spending more time with his family and watching his young children grow up. He is also hoping to find more time for travel, reading, cooking and photography—children's schedules permitting.

Mr. Speaker, as the people of Belmont contemplate Mayor Braunstein's contribution to their well-being, they will recognize that he possessed superior leadership skills and leaves having accomplished his objective, and having set an outstanding example for his successors. I know the House of Representatives joins me in wishing him well in his future adventures.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,786,830,545,682.60. We've added \$8,159,953,496,769.52 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN HONOR OF THE VICTIMS OF  
THE SAN BERNARDINO ATTACK

**HON. NORMA J. TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the tragic shooting in San Bernardino last week and to recognize and honor the victims who lost their lives.

Despite the increasing frequency with which these kinds of events seem to occur, we never expect them to happen in our community. But this December 2nd, that is exactly what happened and tragedy hit home.

I knew the Inland Regional Center well and represented the city of San Bernardino during my time in the State Senate. And on this tragic day, five individuals who lived in cities I represent were taken from this world.

Isaac Amanios was a Fontana resident who came to this country from Eritrea looking for a better life for his children. He was described as an amazing father, brother, an amazing everything.

Sierra Clayborn, a UC Riverside graduate, previously lived in Ontario. Those who knew her say she was energetic, thoughtful, and always smiling, and she loved what she called her blooming career in public and environmental health.

Larry Daniel Kaufman, a resident of Rialto, considered himself a free spirit, loved horror movies, and talked to everyone he met.

Yvette Velasco was 27 and a Fontana resident who was full of life and loved by all who knew her. Those close to her say she embodied intelligence and ambition.

And Benetta Bettadal of Rialto was a graduate of Cal Poly Pomona, also in my district.

She came to the United States fleeing Islamic extremism and the persecution of Christians following the Iranian revolution. In a horrible twist of fate, she lost her life at the hands of the same kind of extremism that brought her to this country.

Isaac, Sierra, Larry, Yvette, Benetta. These were our neighbors. They could have been our children, our loved ones, or our friends. As our community begins to heal, we owe it to them and to the other nine victims to ask ourselves how to best honor the vibrant lives that were taken from us much too soon.

Mr. Speaker, far too many communities have felt the pain that the San Bernardino and Inland Empire community is facing right now. Far too many Americans have lost loved ones in similar acts of violence. It is now up to us in Congress to use this tragedy as a catalyst for a serious, productive, and respectful dialogue on the actions we can and must take to prevent this kind of tragedy from ever happening again. Inaction is inexcusable and an affront to the lives lost on that tragic day.

IN RECOGNITION OF RAYMOND C.  
MILLER

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Raymond C. Miller for his extraordinary 16 years of service on the Brisbane City Council, four terms as Mayor. Dr. Miller served from 1984–1995 and again from 2011–2015 and has made significant contributions to the city and San Mateo County.

Dr. Miller cares deeply about government transparency, accountability and responsiveness. The fiscal and environmental health of Brisbane are of utmost importance to him. This is very well reflected in the work he has done on a long list of committees, subcommittees and boards. He served on the Airport Land Use Committee, the Complete Streets Safety Committee, the City Sustainability Committee, the Open Space & Ecology Committee, the Facilities/Water Sewer Subcommittee, the Finance Subcommittee, and several others.

As a retired Political Economy and Interdisciplinary Social Science professor at San Francisco State University for 44 years, Councilman Miller has an extensive understanding of the public policy process. For example, Dr. Miller has been deeply involved in the contract negotiations for the development of the Baylands, a 600-acre site on the edge of San Francisco Bay, the evaluation of the draft Environmental Impact Report, and the development of sustainability goals.

During his last term as Mayor, Dr. Miller helped restructure the city budget to create a more user-friendly document. He worked with the council to place a business license tax for liquid storage facilities on the ballot, to approve a contract for a hotel feasibility market study for Sierra Point, and to conduct labor negotiations during tough financial times. He also spent many hours as editor of Brisbane's 50th Anniversary History Book Project.

Raymond Miller was born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1934. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration/Public

Administration from the University of Denver in 1955, a Master's degree in Social Science from the University of Chicago in 1958 and a Ph.D. in Social Science from Syracuse University in 1966. He served as president of the Society of International Development and the Association for Integrative Studies where he was a founding editor of *Issues in Integrative Studies*. He also is the author of *International Political Economy: Contrasting World Views* and the recipient of the Kenneth Boulding Award from the Association for Integrative Studies.

Dr. Miller married his wife of 55 years, Anja, in Helsinki. They moved to Brisbane in 1966 and she also served on the Brisbane City Council in 1970. They have a daughter, Elna, who lives in town with her twin daughters Julianne and Marissa. In his well-deserved retirement, Dr. Miller is looking forward to spending more time with his family and enjoying theater, ballet and Dixieland jazz.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor an exceptional scholar and public servant whose intellect and expertise have greatly benefitted the City of Brisbane. Raymond C. Miller's retirement will leave a big void on the city council, but his significant contributions will be felt for years to come.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE DANTE CLUB'S 100TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 100th year anniversary of the Dante Club in West Springfield, Massachusetts. The Dante Club has served as a place for Italians to embrace their culture, celebrate their history, and promote athleticism. Today, the Dante Club has over 900 members, a competitive racquetball league, and hosts widely attended social and cultural events throughout the year.

On November 7, 1915, a group of Italian men gathered in Springfield with the goal of creating a club promoting "culture, good fellowship, athletics, and good American citizenship." They named the club after Dante Alighieri, a highly acclaimed Italian poet and constructor of the Italian language. The Dante Club originally only accepted Italian members and sons of Italians, but later eased its membership restrictions, allowing men of other ethnic groups married to Italian women. In 1935, the Dante Women's Club division was formed, and in 1963 the Club's constitution was amended, allowing non-Italians to become members.

The Dante Club purchased its first site in 1924 in West Springfield. Thirty years later, the Club received notice that its property would be taken away in order to construct the Route 5 highway, so the members purchased the old Memorial School Building in West Springfield. This remains its current home today. The Club has had numerous improvements since its founding, and now includes a kitchen, banquet hall, and health center with racquetball courts. The Dante Club hosts a successful racquetball league, which runs from September to May of every year and includes six divisions with over 100 players. The health

center was opened in 1970, and has trained several notable athletes, including the Michigan State hockey coach Amo Bessone, and Gene Grazia, 1960 U.S. Hockey Team Olympic Gold Medalist.

Mr. Speaker, the Dante Club's founders have succeeded in organizing a center in America to preserve and celebrate Italian culture and values, while fostering friendships and promoting athleticism and community. I wish the Dante Club the best in its future endeavors, and look forward to watching it prosper for years to come.

#### HONORING MAJOR BRYAN WHITTIER

##### HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Major Bryan Whittier of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to the Nation. After nearly four years of faithful service in the Nation's capital, Major Whittier will transition from his present assignment as an Army Liaison in the Office of the Chief Legislative Liaison to the Army's 2nd Scout Cavalry Regiment in Vilsack, Germany.

Major Whittier has demonstrated the invaluable service that Army Congressional Liaisons provide to the Congress. He enabled countless Members and staff to develop better understandings of Army policies, operations, and requirements. His first-hand knowledge of military needs, culture, and tradition was a tremendous benefit to Congressional offices. Prior to service as a Liaison, Major Whittier was assigned to my office as a Military Fellow where he quickly became an indispensable asset to our team. His performance was superb and he earned my utmost respect during his tenure on my staff. Major Whittier also completed a Master's Degree from George Washington University during his time here, demonstrating his commitment as a Warrior and a Scholar.

Major Whittier is a native of Scottsdale, Arizona; he commissioned through Norwich University ROTC in 2003. During his twelve year active duty Army career, he has excelled in numerous leadership and staff assignments as an Officer and UH-60 Blackhawk aviator. Major Whittier served as a Rear Detachment Commander and as an Assault Company Commander for 36 months in the 101st Airborne Division at Ft. Campbell, KY. From there, he deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom for twelve months. Prior to command, Major Whittier successfully executed duties as a Battalion Operations Officer, Battalion Adjutant, Company Executive Officer, and Platoon Leader, during which time he conducted a twelve month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

His dedication to excellence has not gone unnoticed. Major Whittier was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the NATO Medal, and numerous others. He has earned the Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, Army Senior Aviator Badge, Combat Action Badge and the Army Staff Badge.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize the selfless service of Major Bryan Whittier and the support and dedication of his wife Shelley and their two children, Bryley and William. I wish them the very best as they continue their service to our great nation and proceed to the next chapter in their lives.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY OF PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL

##### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to congratulate the Piedmont High School football team on their state championship win in the 3A class.

The Piedmont Bulldogs defeated the Bayside Academy Admirals 44-7, on December 3 at the Bryant-Denny Stadium in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Taylor Hayes, Piedmont quarterback, and Darnell Jackson, running back, were the standout players of the game with a combined 124 yards on 18 carries and four touchdowns between them. Hayes also made the play of the game, with a 48-yard touchdown run in the second quarter.

Piedmont's coach Steve Smith said, "Our kids played their best football when it mattered the most—at the end of the year."

This victory marks the second state football title in the school's history, and set school records for wins in a season as well as points scored.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Piedmont High School on their achievement. Go Bulldogs.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF WEMU 89.1'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate WEMU 89.1 radio station on their 50th Anniversary. As a Member of Congress and a long-time listener and supporter, it is my honor and privilege to recognize their commitment to providing first class news and entertainment to our community.

Founded on December 8, 1965, WEMU 89.1 began its broadcasting service from the Quirk Building for Eastern Michigan University with the goal of delivering local news and showcasing jazz, blues, and community musicians. Since then, WEMU has grown into one of the most popular news and entertainment stations serving the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti area. WEMU is an affiliate of National Public Radio, which allows the station to provide first rate national news and programming while continuing to maintain its focus on the community and region it calls home.

WEMU has become a part of the fabric of our southeast Michigan community. Over the course of fifty years, they have transformed themselves from a small university radio station into a go-to destination for balanced, informative news and entertainment. In an age



of media consolidation, they have maintained their commitment to meaningful local news coverage focused on the people, issues and events that make our region tick. Their dedication to fair and honest reporting of the news and promoting local music and artists has had a profound positive impact on our region, and we cannot thank them enough for their commitment to this important work.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor WEMU 89.1 on their 50th Anniversary and to wish them many more years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN "JACK"  
MATTHEWS

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor John "Jack" Matthews for his twelve years of service on the San Mateo City Council—two terms as Mayor—and his many contributions to our community.

Councilman Matthews served on the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust (HEART), C/CAG, the Emergency Services Council, and the Local Policy Maker Group for Caltrain Electrification and High Speed Rail. These names with obscure meanings mask organizations of enormous importance to our community. Fortune smiled on us when Jack Matthews agreed to these assignments.

Jack also served on the Grand Boulevard Initiative, the Civic Arts Committee and the homeless outreach team. One of his proudest moments was the 40th anniversary celebration of San Mateo's relationship with the 101st Airborne Division during Memorial Day Weekend in 2012 when the city also hosted its sister city Toyanaka, Japan.

During his tenure on the council, he has been a voice of reason. In subtle contrast to his otherwise quiet nature he has been insistent about the issue of equal opportunity for all. This core value of Jack Matthews is best demonstrated by the very active role he played in the development of affordable housing in San Mateo. Jack and his council colleagues have helped create Peninsula Station, an affordable development for 60 families, as well as Delaware Pacific, housing 120 low income families at the former site of the police station. Rather than wring its hands over the problem of homelessness, San Mateo, in large part through Jack's leadership, grappled with the problem and developed a solution—buying and redeveloping the Hotel Vendome. Upon opening, one new resident remarked to a reporter that she had taken her first shower in many years. Jack and his enlightened colleagues on the San Mateo City Council offered that woman more than a shower. She regained her dignity.

Jack also supported construction of an award-winning, beautiful new library, a Transit Center, the creation of Draeger's Market, a new downtown cinema, a new police station, the emergence of Bay Meadows as a regional transit and housing hub, and new transit-oriented development at the Hayward Park Caltrain station. He also supported historic changes to the organization of the fire department. Some councilmembers serve and never

witness any of these types of changes. Jack helped shepherd all of them.

Mr. Matthews is an architect and has his own firm, John Matthews Architects, located in downtown San Mateo since 1986. His firm is responsible for the design and significant storefront improvements at the St. Matthew Hotel, Kaffee Haus, Tomatina, AcquaPazza Ristorante, Vault 164, M is for Mystery Bookstore and others. In 1992, he served as president of the American Institute of Architects for San Mateo County and from 1994 to 1996 he was a board member of the AIA California Council.

Community service is in Jack's DNA. A long-time volunteer with the Boy Scouts, he has additionally served on the Board of Directors of H.I.P. Housing, a non-profit providing housing to over 1,000 people.

Born in San Francisco, Jack grew up in San Carlos and attended Carlmont High School. He graduated from California State Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo with a degree in architecture in 1972. Two years later, he and his wife of 45 years, Patricia, moved to San Mateo and raised their four children, Domenic, Anthony, Benjamin and Desiree. Today they have four grandchildren, Delphine, Tessa, Stephen and Lorenzo. After his retirement from the city council, Jack is looking forward to spending more time with his family and pursuing his passion for the outdoors including hiking, backpacking and fly fishing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor my good friend and colleague Jack Matthews for his dedicated service to the residents of his city. His outstanding work has helped make San Mateo a more beautiful and livable community. He has demonstrated by personal example that San Mateo has an enormous heart. We are losing a local leader who will soon become a man with additional time for leisure. There is no doubt that Jack will, even during times of quiet repose, be dreaming big dreams for his extended family—the people of the City of San Mateo.

RECOGNIZING TED B. WAHBY

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and accomplishments of Ted B. Wahby, who passed away on Saturday, December 5, 2015. He was a warm friend who leaves a legacy of superb public service in its best sense. He will be deeply, personally missed by so many of us privileged to work hand-in-hand, and I am honored to pay tribute to his remarkable life accomplishments.

Ted Wahby was a pillar in the City of St. Clair Shores, Macomb County and the greater region for over 50 years. He and his wife Yvonne moved to St. Clair Shores in 1964 and raised six children there. The Wahby family planted strong roots in the city as faithful members of St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church and the Shorewood Kiwanis. During this time Ted embarked upon a successful career working at Comerica Bank, serving in numerous high-level capacities for 31 years, including Vice President.

In addition to Ted Wahby's love of family and pride in his successful business career, he held a deep belief of the importance of giving back to the community. He first sought public office in 1979 and was elected to Lake Shore School Board. Two years later he was elected to the St. Clair Shores City Council, and two years after that as Mayor, where he provided strong, forward thinking leadership from 1983 to 1995. Ted then decided to take his local experience to the next level by serving as Treasurer of Macomb County from 1995 until his passing. Over this twenty year period Ted devoted his immense talents to serving residents in a way that focused on the human element, while using his profound management skills to place the county in a strong fiscal position.

Whatever public office he held, for him the test always was how his actions would improve the lives of others, and in our many discussions, he was most proud how as county Treasurer, he helped keep thousands of families who experienced financial stress from losing their homes to foreclosure.

His community and civic involvement was rivaled by few. The leadership he provided on so many boards locally and throughout the region is yet another testament to his strong desire to serve the public. Ted was not one to seek credit for his work, yet he was the recipient of numerous prestigious awards and recognitions from charitable and philanthropic organizations, far too many to list.

If there is one legacy of Ted Wahby's service that will be remembered and valued above all else, it is his premier leadership and advocacy for better health care. As a member of McLaren Macomb Hospital's Board of Trustees since 2000 and in the role of Chairman since 2002, Ted strategically leveraged his business and political skills to make critical advances in the health care field. Ted's mission of opening the Ted B. Wahby Cancer Center in 2004 was very personal for him and Yvonne, who both lost family members to cancer. He saw the need for compassionate, high quality care close to home, since at the time nearly 70% of Macomb cancer patients had to drive a far distance for care. He was a tireless supporter and fund-raiser from the very beginning, and worked for many years to influence local leaders to invest in the capital campaign. For his dedicated efforts, Ted earned many accolades, including the 2005 Health Care Leadership Award from the Michigan Health & Hospital Association, and the 2005 Thanks for Giving Award, presented for extraordinary volunteer service to hospitals in the Metro Detroit area.

Over these last few days since Ted's passing, there have been countless heartwarming statements made by so many, but the one that sums it up for me is that above all, Ted Wahby was a family man, as stated by his children. His love for his wife, children, nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren defined who he was and he set an example for these generations to follow.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I am profoundly honored to have called Ted Wahby my friend, and thankful for the opportunity to work side-by-side during his career and witness firsthand his effective leadership and compassion. I am humbled to join with his family, friends and the community at-large in mourning his loss, while celebrating his life and honoring his accomplishments.



HONORING BERT DODDS

**HON. TODD C. YOUNG**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today we honor Bert Dodds for his service to the United States Navy and to his country.

A Hospital Corpsman, Dodds was a medical professional attached to the 1st Platoon, 2nd Combined Action Group, 3rd Marine Amphibious Force, 1st Marine Division in Vietnam from November 1967 through November 1968. During his tour of duty in Vietnam, Dodds provided medical expertise to Vietnamese orphans and various local villages. On November 4, 1967, while on patrol with his detachment, a booby trap exploded on a nearby rice paddy dike and injured Dodds' leg and head.

In spite of his injuries, Dodds continued to treat the Marines in his detachment until a medical evacuation was arranged. Dodds' heroism earned him, among other awards, a Purple Heart, a Navy Commendation, a Meritorious Unit Citation, and a Combat Action Ribbon.

Dodds' drive for selfless service continued beyond his tenure in the Navy. After his homecoming, Dodds lectured at the Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia and served as a medical corpsman during a massive peace march in Washington, DC, in which hundreds of thousands of demonstrators converged on the Capitol to protest the Vietnam War.

Today, Dodds' heart for his community is reflected by his volunteerism. He visited local grade schools on Veterans Day to teach the children about proper flag etiquette. In conjunction with the Marine Corps League, he has visited numerous veterans in a VA hospital and local nursing homes.

He is an active member of the Marine Corps League Morgan County Detachment #1367 and was elected Commandant in April 2015. Earlier this year, Dodds organized a celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Two Jima at the American Legion in Martinsville.

It is a privilege to award Bert Dodds with Congressional Commendation, and ensure his story is preserved for future generations.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 655, I was unavoidably detained off of the House floor. Therefore, I was unable to cast my vote on the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 644, the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015.

Had I been present, I would have voted NO.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARGE COLAPIETRO

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Marge Colapietro for eight years of dedicated service on the Millbrae City Council, including a term as Vice Mayor in 2011 and as Mayor in 2012. Marge's commitment to her community is unparalleled. She has logged precisely 24,274 hours of public service since she was elected to the council in 2007. This is the kind of precision and accountability that characterizes Marge's way of approaching problem solving in service to her constituents. I am proud to call her a colleague and dear friend.

During her tenure on the city council, Marge has always sought the greatest good for Millbrae's residents and businesses. She worked hard to protect safety services, helped attract businesses to the city, used prudent spending practices to control the budget during very difficult fiscal times in our nation's history, and she has always been attentive to her constituents both young and old. My staff reports that she regularly sought assistance for her constituents with federal issues, and always wanted to be kept up-to-date on whether or not a problem was resolved. Marge Colapietro's public service has been marked by thorough analysis of opportunities facing the City of Millbrae, constant interactions with an ever-changing city population, and a staunch belief that local decision making about land use and public services is a key tool in maintaining Millbrae's outstanding quality of life.

With a 37-year career in global transportation services, Marge brought invaluable experience and expertise to the table. Millbrae, in addition to being a tree-lined community of families and multiple generations, is a transportation hub resting adjacent to San Francisco International Airport. Due to its strategic location, Millbrae has wonderful prospects in its future. To bolster these prospects while preserving Millbrae's small-town character, Marge served on a long list of committees, including the Cultural Arts Committee, the Downtown Process Committee, Millbrae Community Television, the Senior Advisory Committee, the Tourism Committee, and the Youth Advisory Committee. She also played an essential role in ballot measures to save Millbrae's fire services.

Marge is passionate about bolstering the middle class and working families of her community, as well as housing and emergency preparedness. This passion is reflected in her multiple assignments through the city council. Regionally Marge represented Millbrae on the Airport Community Roundtable, the Airport Land Use Committee, C/CAG's Board of Directors, the League of California Cities Public Safety Advisory Committee, the San Mateo Council of Cities, the San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services, the San Mateo County Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities, and the San Mateo County Regional Housing Needs Allocation Policy Advisory Committee.

From this long, yet incomplete, list you can see how she arrived at more than 24,000 hours of service. Marge is the ultimate volun-

teer on behalf of Millbrae's best interests. She made time for the American Cancer Society, the Special Olympics, the Lions Club, Rotary, the Millbrae library, the historical society, and Millbrae's outstanding schools. In 2001 Marge was honored as Millbrae Woman of the Year. In 2004, she received the California's Park and Recreation Society District IV Volunteer Award. In 2009, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from President Obama. RSVP, a senior volunteer organization, honored her with another Lifetime Achievement award for volunteering 4,000 hours in less than three years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor one of the most dedicated and hands-on public servants our region will ever see. As a Councilmember and Mayor, Marge Colapietro's fingerprints are all over Millbrae and will be there for generations to come. If her colleagues and future members of the council learn even half of the lessons of stewardship that Marge has taught by example throughout these years, these council members will earn PhD's in public service. Marge Colapietro, the committed, energetic and completely thorough professor of stewardship is retiring from her post to become an emeritus professor of public life. We wish her all the best in her many years to come.

## TRIBUTE TO 1ST AVENUE COLLECTIVE

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sarah Reed and Sandra Geronimo on the opening of their new business 1st Avenue Collective in Winterset, Iowa.

Sarah and Sandra recently moved to Madison County and fell in love with Winterset and the old county jail building that is now home to their new business. They describe 1st Avenue Collective as an artisan collective and hope to promote arts and creativity in central Iowa.

1st Avenue Collective is home to artwork from nine local artists and 10 artists from the surrounding area. Each piece of artwork is handmade and ranges from pottery and jewelry to wood works and candles. The welcoming atmosphere and culture of Winterset is what drew Sarah and Sandra to this rural Iowa town.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Sarah and Sandra for the service they provide to the community of Winterset and their willingness to open a small business. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them for the opening of their new business and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

## HONORING EIGHTH DISTRICT PUBLIC SERVANT

**HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated public servant

from the Eighth Congressional District of Illinois who is turning 50 years old this week.

Twenty-five years ago, Steve Tufenkjian graduated from the Illinois State Police Academy and has served the people of Illinois in several different ways ever since. In that time, he has served as everything from a K9 officer to a member of the Special Enforcement Team and from Sergeant to his current role where he oversees a team of Troopers as Platoon Commander.

In each of his roles, Mr. Tufenkjian has been recognized by the Illinois State Police for his great work. He has received several awards for his dedication and, as a member of the Special Enforcement Team, he made more than 1,000 reckless driving arrests.

Our state and our nation need more dedicated public servants like Steve Tufenkjian. I wish him and his family—his two sons Zachary and Jacob as well as his wife of 17 years Michelle, who is also a State Police officer—a happy 50th birthday and thank them for their continued public service and efforts to keep our community safe.

TO HONOR THE SERVICE OF CONCORD CITY COUNCILMAN DAVID W. PHILLIPS

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David W. Phillips of Concord, North Carolina, for his more than twenty years of service to our community on the Concord City Council.

Dave was first elected to the Concord City Council in 1995 and has served on the Council five consecutive terms. During this time, he served two terms as Mayor Pro-Term. Born and raised in Concord, Dave has a history of service to our community, starting at an early age with his leadership in Boy Scouts. He graduated from Concord High School and continued on to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte where he attained a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. After graduating, Dave worked for a short time back in Concord at Cannon Mills before starting a long and successful career at Duke Energy.

Over the years, Dave has served his community in many different capacities. He is a member and former President of the Concord Rotary Club, a member of the UNC Charlotte Alumni Association, and serves on the Boards of Directors for Historic Cabarrus Association, Inc. and Cabarrus County Community Foundation. Additionally, he formerly served on the Board of Directors of the Union County Chamber of Commerce and the Archdale-Trinity Chamber of Commerce.

Dave's steady leadership has seen Concord maintain a low tax rate while its population has more than doubled from the 42,000 people who lived in the city when he was first elected in 1995. During a time that saw our area lose thousands of textile and manufacturing jobs while still increasing in population, Dave and the rest of the City Council were instrumental in continuing infrastructure develop-

ment, growing city schools and recruiting new industry to Concord. Because of his hard work and dedication, Concord's future looks brighter than ever.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in thanking David W. Phillips for his esteemed service on the Concord City Council and wishing him well as he opens the next chapter in his storied life.

### HONORING KIRK GREGG

### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I am proud that my Congressional district is the home of Corning Incorporated, an American company that has risen over its 164-year history to become one of the most innovative manufacturers in the world.

Today, I rise to take a moment to honor Kirk Gregg, Corning's Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer, who is retiring from the company after 22 years of executive leadership. Over his tenure, Kirk has made an enormous contribution to the company's success and to the community's development. I am most grateful to Kirk for his unparalleled commitment to the community. He has had an enormously positive impact on my constituents and my extended family that live in the district.

Kirk joined Corning in 1993 and was named Chief Administrative Officer in 2002. The same year, he was appointed to serve on Corning's Management Committee, a small, very senior group of executives who lead the company. Over the last decade, Kirk has risen up the corporate ladder to become the third highest ranking executive in the company.

As Chief Administrative Officer, Kirk has built the core infrastructure that makes Corning efficient and effective. He has had global responsibility for the corporate staff, including human resources, information technology, supply management, transportation, business services, community relations, government affairs, and aviation. In total, he has managed over \$1B annually in corporate infrastructure, making Corning's staff one of the top performers among its peers in the country's corporate community.

It has been Kirk's work for the community that distinguishes him among corporate leaders and for which I am most grateful. He has played a huge role in meeting the needs of New York's "Southern Tier."

For 17 years, he chaired the Three Rivers Development, attracting tens of millions of dollars of investment to diversify the local community and create jobs. For 15 years, he led the Corning Classic LPGA Tournaments, raising millions of dollars for area hospitals. And statewide, he served for a decade on the Board of Directors for the Business Council of New York State, two years as the Board's chairman. Last, but not least, he has been an enthusiastic supporter of local charities, cultural institutions, and human service organizations.

Every Member of Congress seeks the perspective of people with broad insight into and

who contribute generously to the communities we represent. For me, Kirk is one of those rare people. He understands the people, the community, and the responsibility that corporate leaders have to support their local institutions.

At the same time, he is modest and self-effacing. Kirk is one of those people who works quietly and effectively to make our communities better.

I am very happy to call Kirk Gregg my friend. I know that I speak for the entire Corning, New York community when I thank him for his citizenship and service. We wish him and his wife Penny the very best in a well-deserved retirement. May they enjoy many more happy days entering this new chapter in their lives.

### HONORING MAGNUS JOHNSON

### HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today, we honor Magnus Johnson for his service to his country and community.

Johnson is a veteran of the United States Army and a former Green Beret, completing consecutive tours in both Afghanistan and Iraq. Johnson's record of service included work with Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and Unexploded Ordinances which garnered him a Bronze Star; moreover, Johnson's service overseas earned him a Combat Medal.

Following Johnson's final tour, he was struck with grief when a close friend and fellow service member committed suicide in 2013. Johnson's personal experience with suicide led him to create "Elder Heart," an organization dedicated to healing. His organization strives to repair the divide between veteran and civilian by encouraging both to engage in projects that enhance the community. Elder Heart's approach led to the creation of public art; a sculpture built by veterans and civilians in Nashville, Indiana which highlights Elder Heart's hands-on approach to a veteran's healing process.

Moreover, Johnson aims to raise awareness of veterans who commit suicide—twenty-two every day—through social media, magazine and newspaper advertisements, and other forms of media. Coined "Mission 22," Johnson hopes to educate the public about the plight of some of our service members. Elder Heart is currently planning to construct a national memorial to bring attention to suicide among America's veterans.

Johnson's work has not kept him from being a loyal husband and father. He hopes his 6-year-old daughter and newborn son will come to know the sacrifice of America's veterans.

I have had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Johnson on a number of occasions and can speak without hesitation to his ethical character and his dedication to his brothers-and-sisters in arms. It is a privilege to award him with Congressional Commendation, and ensure his story is preserved for future generations.

TRIBUTE TO THE GIRLS' VARSITY  
SOFTBALL TEAM OF VALOR  
CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Girls' Varsity Softball team of Valor Christian High School in Highlands Ranch, Colorado on winning the 2015 Colorado 4A State Championship game on October 25, 2015.

The students and staff who were a part of the title winning Eagle team deserve to be honored for finishing what had already been a fantastic season by winning the State Championship for the second time in two years. Recording 15 shutouts from their 23 victories, and outscoring their opponents 285–29 helps to illustrate just how dominant the Valor Christian Eagles were this past season.

Throughout their performances in the State Championships, the girls of Valor Christian High School's softball team proved that hard work, dedication, and perseverance is the perfect recipe for champions. The team was led to the championship title through the tireless leadership of their head coach, Dave Atencio, and his commendable staff.

I also congratulate the teachers and parents of this great team. The faculty who supported the Eagles throughout the season must be recognized. No team, no matter how talented and committed, can rise to the level of State Champions without exceptional support and guidance from their teachers and parents.

It is with great pride that I join with the families of Highlands Ranch, Colorado, in congratulating the Valor Christian Eagles on their second straight State Championship.

HONORING ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF  
JOHN IZAK OF THE NOTTINGHAM  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Assistant Fire Chief John Izak of the Nottingham Fire Dept. for the swift action that saved the life of a 14-year-old boy who had collapsed on the soccer field. A trained first responder, Mr. Izak, was able to do the right thing at the right time. He assessed the patient, called 911, provided CPR and helped other responders with defibrillation that restarted the heart of Trevor Newhouse.

All of these vital steps led to Trevor's quick diagnosis, treatment and recovery. The Newhouse family, and the entire 8th Congressional District, would like to thank Assistant Chief Izak for his life-saving work and dedication to our community. The greater community also acknowledges all of the first responders who helped in this incident. We appreciate your 24-7 commitment to the residents of Bucks County.

John Izak's selflessness and quick thinking saved a young life. He has set a powerful example for others to follow.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL  
SALAZAR

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael Salazar for his six years of service on the San Bruno City Council, the last year as Vice Mayor. I came to know Michael during his first year on the council when a horrendous tragedy killed eight residents and destroyed a neighborhood in the city he represented. Michael rose to the unthinkable challenges related to the PG&E gas pipeline explosion of 2010 and helped guide the city through the aftermath.

Michael served on the council subcommittee on schools, on the subcommittee on utilities and garbage, and he represented San Bruno on the county's Peninsula Clean Energy Advisory Board. He also served on the council committee known as Project Pride. The committee's goal is to instill in San Bruno residents a feeling of pride about the community by increasing communication between ever-larger numbers of San Bruno residents. San Bruno is a wonderful community, and the city's focus on community spirit is an important objective of the council.

During his time on the council, Michael Salazar was also instrumental in establishing the guidelines for the San Bruno Community Foundation, a non-profit created by the City Council to manage a \$70 million restitution fund to benefit the entire San Bruno community after the PG&E explosion. Establishing this independent non-profit allows the city to engage very large numbers of residents in setting goals and building more community benefits that will last for decades. Michael has encouraged residents to let their voices be heard before the board of the nonprofit, and to actively engage in helping to set priorities.

On every issue that came before the council, Michael showed deep understanding and commitment to the best possible outcome. Councilman Salazar works in technology, biotechnology and finance, and has done so for over two decades. The council and the residents benefited greatly from his years of experience in the private sector. He was exhaustive in his examination of the city's budgets, and encouraged city staff to explore new ways to deliver city services.

There have been many difficult issues confronted in the remarkable community of San Bruno during the time that Michael served on the council. These include but are not limited to downtown height limits, grade separating Caltrain, dealing with the aftermath of the 2010 gas pipeline explosion, reducing city expenditures during the recession, and identifying priorities and funding mechanisms for the replacement of aging public infrastructure. Michael was unfailingly respectful towards his colleagues and the public during these long conversations.

San Bruno is a city that pays special attention to children, and it has many active houses of worship. Michael coached several youth sports leagues, such as Tee Ball, Jr. Giants Baseball and AYSO Soccer. He has been very active in the schools and at Saint Robert's Catholic Church where he serves as a Eucharistic minister, helped with a children's liturgy

group and served as a member of the social concerns committee. As a longtime board member of St. Robert's and chairman of the parish festival, he volunteered many hours of his time. He also regularly participates in San Bruno's Building Together projects and the annual Clean Sweep event.

Michael was born in San Francisco and holds a Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering from California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Rochester, New York.

Michael and his wife, Sandra, have been married for 18 years and have two sons, Michael and Nicholas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor my good friend and colleague Michael Salazar. I deeply admire and respect him for his integrity, diligence and commitment to others. As an unfailingly polite voice during times of challenge, he set the gold standard for patience when tried by circumstance. He will be missed but fondly remembered as he begins a new life of private endeavor after his distinguished years in service to his outstanding community of San Bruno.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON ENSURING  
PROMPT PAYMENT OF DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION  
DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, small businesses owned by disadvantaged minorities (DBEs) are significantly affected when they are not promptly paid for the work that they do. Lack of prompt payment constitutes a very real barrier to the ability of DBEs to compete in the marketplace. Non-DBE small businesses are also affected by late payment problems.

That is the reason the Department issued its Prompt Payment regulation in the first place.

Under this regulation, "Payment is required only for satisfactory completion of the subcontractor's work." So we are not talking about cases where the prime and subcontractor have a disagreement about the work that was done.

In a recent briefing to my office, the Department of Transportation Inspector General cited the case of a DBE from Florida that got certified as a DBE, bid and won work on an airport project, and satisfactorily completed the work. However, she didn't get paid in a timely manner and eventually was sued by her suppliers who she couldn't pay.

A prompt payment requirement for all subcontractors is a race-neutral measure that assists all subcontractors if they are complied with. However, the concern is that they are not and small disadvantaged businesses which have small margins already, are further squeezed when they aren't paid in a timely manner for work already performed.

In its recent report, the Department of Transportation's Inspector General reaffirmed that failure to promptly pay DBEs continues to be a major barrier and obstacle for these small businesses in the transportation arena.

According to that report, “for several firms we interviewed, payment delays caused cash flow problems, prevented them from paying subcontractors and suppliers, and subjected them to costly lawsuits.”

That report further noted oversight weaknesses of prompt payment issues raised by DBEs to the FAA. This is not just an FAA issue. Those same concerns are applicable across the Department.

Despite progress in this area, major barriers impede the success of new and existing disadvantaged firms. One of those is delayed payments. If these small businesses don't get paid on time, their likelihood of remaining a viable business drastically decreases.

That is why I am grateful for the inclusion of my amendment to H.R. 22 calling on the Department of Transportation to enforce its current rules better. With that bill now law, I urge the Department to make this a priority and to strengthen efforts to make sure that these small businesses get paid on time for doing the quality work they contracted to do.

#### TRIBUTE TO HEATHER MCKAY

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Heather McKay of Atlantic, Iowa, for being selected as the Administrator of the Year by the Iowa Press Association. This award is given to administrators for their dedication and commitment to journalism education in their schools or school districts.

Heather has a background in journalism education and understands the importance that it plays in our society today. She was an English and Journalism teacher at Atlantic High School before becoming the school principal. Throughout Heather's career she has always strived for the best from herself and especially for her students. She is devoted to helping her Atlantic High School students grow and learn so that they have the opportunity to be successful in all they pursue.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Heather for earning this award. She is a shining example of how hard work and dedication can affect the future of our youth. I urge my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Heather and wishing her nothing but continued success.

#### MEK IN IRAQ

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am very concerned that we are not doing enough to get the MEK out of Iraq. The MEK are Iranians stuck in a camp in Iraq because they oppose the Supreme Leader of Iran. The Iraqi government has capitulated time and again to the Supreme Leader by allowing armed militants to attack the MEK camp, even though the MEK voluntarily gave up their weapons

and have no way to defend themselves. Dozens have died in this inexcusable brutality. The MEK has given us valuable information about Iran's nuclear program and simply wants freedom for all Iranian people. The United States State Department has been dilatory in helping protect these Iranian dissidents. We need to do more to resettle the MEK in another country besides Iraq. They are not safe there.

And that's just the way it is.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF JEFFREY HAY'S TENURE AS PRESIDENT OF THE BRITISH-AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the successful tenure of Mr. Jeffrey Hay as President of the British-American Business Council of North Carolina (BABC-NC). For the past three years, Mr. Hay has provided exceptional leadership at the BABC-NC that has resulted in the reemergence of the BABC-NC as a premier chapter in the BABC and has strengthened the business relationship between North Carolina and the United Kingdom.

The BABC is a transatlantic business network designed to give companies and individuals access to partner organizations, both domestic and foreign, in order to strengthen and improve their own businesses. As President of the BABC-NC, Mr. Hay is responsible for ensuring North Carolina businesses and individuals reap the full rewards of being BABC members and expand their presence in North Carolina and the United Kingdom. As a result of his efforts, the BABC-NC has been able to reach more businesses in the state, greatly impacting our state's economy.

In addition to his business-related work within the BABC-NC, Mr. Hay's impact on our community can also be seen through his efforts to help our state's future business leaders. Mr. Hay was instrumental in raising the necessary funds to continue the annual British Studies Summer Program (BSSP), a program that sends a select group of students from the Charlotte area on a two-week travel and study experience to the United Kingdom. This program allows students to gain valuable educational and life experiences which will have a lasting impact on their careers. It is with this focus on enriching the lives of others, coupled with his keen legal and business insights, which made Mr. Hay so successful during his tenure as President of the BABC-NC.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Jeffrey Hay for his successful tenure as President of the British-American Business Council of North Carolina, and thanking him for his dedication to strengthening businesses across the state of North Carolina.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF MAYOR JOHN C. ADDLEMAN

#### HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mayor of Rolling Hills Estates, California, John C. Addleman, who is retiring on December 8, 2015, after 18 years of dedicated service on the City Council.

I want to commend Mayor Addleman for his commitment to our mutual constituents of Rolling Hills Estates, as well as residents of the entire Palos Verdes Peninsula and South Bay areas.

Mayor Addleman began his service to Rolling Hills Estates in 1994 by serving on the city's Planning Commission. He served three years on the Planning Commission prior to his election to the City Council in January 1997. Over the years he has served on the Budget and Audit Committee, Regional Law Enforcement Committee, Stable Concessionaire Search Committee, Economic Development Committee and Chamber Liaison, Traffic and Safety Committee Chair, L.A. County Sanitation Districts Board of Directors.

Mayor Addleman has also served on the Palos Verdes Peninsula Transit Authority as Chair, Vice Chair to the South Bay Cities Council of Governments Metro South Bay Governance Council, and as Finance Committee Chair and Executive Member to the Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board. He has also served on the Executive Board of the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority and on the Transportation Committee of the Southern California Association of Governments.

Through his outstanding service to the community, Mayor Addleman has exemplified the best ideals of a public servant. I am proud to honor Mayor John C. Addleman of Rolling Hills Estates and thank him for his dedication to so many of the residents of the 33rd Congressional District.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to clarify my position on Roll Call vote 665. On agreeing to the Conference Report to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, I voted Aye. I wish to explain further why I voted in favor of this reauthorization.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a good fix to the monolithic standards of No Child Left Behind. Now we have an environment that lets teachers teach and students learn, while maintaining and enhancing the original civil rights intent of the original ESEA.

While ESSA is a significant improvement over current elementary and secondary education standards, I will not claim ESSA is a perfect bill—no bill can ever claim that title. In particular, I was disappointed that all AAPI students will continue to be categorized together as one group when student performance data is aggregated and reported. The

data on AAPI students does not reveal the intricacies of the disparate ethnic groups and at worst, it will mask the hard truth of low-performing subgroups. I am cautiously optimistic that report language included in the accompanying conference report to provide for technical assistance to states who do wish to disaggregate AAPI data will be made a reality.

With ESSA in on its way to becoming the law of the land, it is now the responsibility of the states to hold their schools accountable. I firmly believe the state of California will rise to the occasion and develop the standards which work for our state and our institutions of higher education. I look forward to successful implementation of ESSA which emphasizes equal opportunities for all students.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT G.  
GOTTSCHALK

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Robert G. Gottschalk, the current Mayor of Millbrae, California, for his twelve years of service on the Millbrae City Council. Mr. Gottschalk served on the council from 2001–2009 and then again from 2011–2015. He was Mayor for three terms and Vice Mayor for three terms.

Just a few years ago, Millbrae, like most cities on the San Francisco Peninsula, undertook a retrenchment involving substantial budget cuts and changes to service delivery. Although many of these changes arrived shortly before Robert Gottschalk returned to the city council, the city's residents counted on Robert and his colleagues to nurture the experiment into a success. Recently, changes occurred to Millbrae's fire department. In both instances, Robert and his colleagues worked hard to ensure that change delivered value for city residents.

Robert also worked hard to identify a sound development partner for the city in several areas near the Millbrae BART station. Surrounding properties, and BART's own property, hold great promise for residents and the city's treasury. Robert Gottschalk sought to support transit-oriented development throughout this area while also ensuring that existing Millbrae residents benefitted through additional sales tax that may support city services.

For the last three years, Mr. Gottschalk has served on the HEART Board of Directors, an affordable housing fund, that helps to relieve the hardship that too many of our neighbors suffer due to the skyrocketing housing prices in the Bay Area. The lack of affordable housing is unfortunately the defining problem of our time and the leadership of our elected officials is needed to address it.

In his duties on the council, Mayor Gottschalk served on the Finance Committee, the Loan Review Committee, the Airport Land Use Committee and the SFO Airport Community Roundtable. I've been working closely with him and other local and federal officials to solve the airport noise crisis that has become a health problem for many residents in San Mateo County. In his service on the Airport Community Roundtable, and on the council, his legal expertise is invoked to ensure that

Millbrae remains as noise-free as possible, and that the community's interests are understood by airport and federal officials.

During his 12 years on the council, Councilman Gottschalk has been part of many milestones in town. He was instrumental in completing the construction of the Millbrae library and the expansion of the countywide library system. As a long-time board member of the Sister Cities Commission, he led the effort and signed friendship city agreements with Kai Ping, China in 2009 and with Hanyu, Japan in 2014. He has traveled to China five times. He has also been very active in improving county emergency services and in relieving traffic congestion.

Mr. Gottschalk brought impressive experience to the city council. He earned a BA from San Jose State University in 1968, an MBA in Finance from UC Berkeley in 1975 and a JD from UC Hastings College of the Law the same year. He has practiced law in Millbrae for 15 years. Prior to that, he had a 21-year-career in the banking industry. He served for 26 years in the military, including on an aircraft carrier in Vietnam, and retired as Captain in the U.S. Navy Reserves.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Robert Gottschalk for his service to the city of Millbrae and to our country. Few are called to serve, and even fewer go willingly into the daily toil of democracy. Whether in our nation's armed forces or as a thoughtful voice of reason on a city council, Robert Gottschalk is one who has contributed greatly to his city and country. It is now time for him to turn over the reins of responsibility to another council, but he does so knowing that he not only did his best on behalf of his community, but that his service is an example of why local democracy in America is the most trusted level of government. We sincerely thank him for a job exceedingly well done.

HONORING JAMES "LEE"  
HUTCHINSON

**HON. TODD C. YOUNG**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today, we honor James "Lee" Hutchinson for his service to his country and to his community.

A southern Indiana native, Hutchinson served with the U.S. Army Air Corps during the final years of World War II. After attending training to become a radio operator, Hutchinson shipped out with the 490th Bombardment Group of the 8th Air Force. While serving with the "Mighty Eighth," Hutchinson was aboard a B-17 Flying Fortress; he and his crew executed missions deep within Nazi Germany, and often faced anti-aircraft fire and attacks by the German Luftwaffe.

Hutchinson's numerous awards and commendations include, among others, a World War II Victory Medal, European African Middle Eastern Service Medal, and an American Theater Service Medal.

He arrived home at the age of 20 and enrolled in Indiana University with a desire to study history and journalism. He pursued further education after graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education in 1949,

and enjoyed a 37 year career in education in the Bedford-North Lawrence school system.

Hutchinson's experiences in World War II inspired him to author "Through These Eyes: A World War II Eighth Air Force Combat Diary," which chronicled his life in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Hutchinson published three more books that detail memorable moments from his life and highlight his record of service.

An accomplished author, educator, and serviceman, Hutchinson remains involved in his home church. Moreover, he served as the president of the local Rotary Club, and is an active member of his Masonic Lodge.

It is a privilege to award James "Lee" Hutchinson with Congressional Commendation, and ensure his story is preserved for future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Rollcall no. 665, I was unavoidably detained off of the House floor. Therefore, I was unable to cast my vote on adoption of the conference report to accompany S. 1177, the Student Success Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted YES.

A TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY GREGORY-JOHNSON

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my dear friend and colleague, Shirley Gregory-Johnson. Shirley has served the people of Philadelphia since her early years. She was active in her Germantown neighborhood in her youth. Subsequently, the people of Logan were lucky enough to have her move into their community and to continue her public service.

Shirley has been a dynamic leader of that community for over thirty years. In 1986, 950 homes in the Logan Triangle were found to be sinking, leaving families homeless and without a future. Shirley led the efforts to rescue affected families, participating in the creation and operations of the nonprofit Logan Assistance Corporation to help relocate Logan residents. She extended her efforts to help her neighbors and constituents by serving on boards such as Albert Einstein Hospital and Bebash, one of the nation's HIV/AIDS organizations which serves low-income people of color with HIV disease.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Gregory-Johnson also has a distinguished record of service to this House. She worked in the office of my predecessor, Hon. Tom Foglietta for fifteen years. She was one of my first hires, when I persuaded her to join my staff as District Director in 1998. She retired from the House in January of this year, but continues her public service in various volunteer and political positions.

Shirley will be celebrating her 80th birthday on December 13. Dignitaries and residents of

Philadelphia will come together to honor that milestone and the life of this dynamic leader. I ask that all of my colleagues in the House join me in honoring her today.

This is an honor she richly deserves.

#### PARIS CLIMATE SUMMIT

### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Paris Climate Summit.

This international summit provides us with a historic opportunity to collectively tackle climate change head on.

An agreement from this summit would—for the first time—produce an ambitious, effective, and transparent international work plan.

Thanks to President Obama, our nation has already made real progress in addressing climate change.

The President has taken bold steps with the Clean Power Plan, which sets the first-ever carbon pollution standards for power plants. By 2030, this plan would prevent up to 3,600 premature deaths and 90,000 asthma attacks in children—while spurring economic growth by creating tens of thousands of jobs and saving average families nearly \$85 a year in energy costs.

It's a win-win for families, public health and our planet.

Sadly, Republicans are trying to dismantle these and other limits on polluters and pollution at every turn.

Mr. Speaker, we have a moral obligation to protect our world for future generations by investing in renewable energy sources.

I am proud that my district is home to more than 70 solar companies. In the East Bay, our green energy future is rapidly being transformed into a reality.

Now, our nation and the world must join this movement. Too many people, especially in communities of color and low-income communities, are already feeling the impact of climate change on their daily lives. It's past time to address this issue. Our children and grandchildren deserve a planet worth inheriting.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll call numbers 656, 658, and 664, I was unavoidably detained off of the House floor. Therefore, I was unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YES.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE GIRLS' VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM OF CHEROKEE TRAIL HIGH SCHOOL

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Girls' Varsity Volleyball team of

Cherokee Trail High School in Aurora, Colorado on winning the 2015 Colorado 5A State Championship game on November 14, 2015.

The students and staff who were a part of the title winning Cougar team deserve the utmost respect and commendation for winning in what has been a season full of challenges. Following the tragic death of one of their players, Celeste James, and a serious injury to another, Amazing Ashby, the Cherokee Trail Cougars showed courage in the face of true adversity to complete an amazing title winning season which honored their teammates.

In their dominant performances in the State Championships, the girls of Cherokee Trail High School's volleyball team proved that hard work, dedication, and perseverance is the perfect recipe for champions. These volleyball players were led to the championship title through the tireless leadership of their head coach, Terry Miller, and his commendable staff.

I also congratulate the educators and parents of this superb team. The faculty who supported the Cougars throughout the season must be recognized. No team, no matter how talented and committed, can rise to the level of State Champions without exceptional support and guidance from their teachers and parents.

It is with great pride that I join all of the residents of Aurora, Colorado, in congratulating the Cherokee Trail Cougars on their State Championship.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ROSANNE S. FOUST

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Rosanne S. Foust for twelve years of exemplary service on the City Council of Redwood City, including two years as Mayor and Vice Mayor. She leaves with a distinguished legacy of leadership, innovation and lasting contributions to the residents of Redwood City. I've had the great pleasure to work with Rosanne on many occasions and am fortunate to call her a good friend.

Rosanne brought decades of business experience to the council. She is the President and CEO of the San Mateo County Economic Development Association, SAMCEDA, the oldest countywide business organization on the Peninsula. Before that, Rosanne had a successful 20-year career with Alsace Development International USA, an international trade and development company.

During her time on the council, Rosanne served on the San Mateo County Transportation Authority. The transportation authority creates roads and mass transit infrastructure. Service on the board is difficult because there is never enough money to meet the needs of a booming economy. While prioritizing local projects and negotiating amongst local agencies, Rosanne Foust quickly became known for her fair and well-reasoned approach to identifying community transportation priorities. Her transportation decisions exemplified the maxim "Think globally, act locally."

Her dedication to the community is also demonstrated by her service on the city's Planning Commission, the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, the Bay Area Council Economic Institute and through her public service programming at Peninsula Television. She is also a long-time member of the Redwood City-San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club.

Business cannot survive without water. When the water supply for San Francisco and the Peninsula was endangered by an ill-conceived ballot measure in San Francisco, Rosanne led the local effort in the successful campaign to defeat the measure.

Rosanne Foust never loses sight of the people left behind by our booming economy. She is a champion of affordable housing and understands how skyrocketing housing prices and rents are squeezing working families out of the Bay Area. Just recently, she led the city council to increase the number of affordable housing units within a new downtown project of 2,500 housing units from the proposed 250 apartments to the final agreement—375. More than 125 additional working families will now be able to live in downtown Redwood City. This is just one of many examples of her advocacy on behalf of equal economic opportunity.

Redwood City is fortunate to have a leader in Rosanne Foust. She has served as the treasurer and board member of Casa de Redwood, a low-cost housing complex for 136 senior citizens. Rosanne was willing to take time from her family and business priorities to serve as a steward of housing for these otherwise vulnerable members of our community. In Rosanne Foust, the community has had a vocal advocate for social justice.

Her tireless efforts to benefit our community have not gone unnoticed. The San Francisco Business Times honored her as one of the "Most Influential Women in Business in the Bay Area" in 2009 and 2010 and a member of the "Forever Influential Honor Roll" for 2011, 2012 and 2013. Notre Dame de Namur University honored her as the first Alumna of Distinction in 2013. The Redwood City Chamber of Commerce named her Person of the Year in 2002 and 2013 and Athena Businesswoman of the Year in 2002.

Rosanne was born and raised in Connecticut. She earned an MA in Public Administration and a BA in International Studies and Economics. She also completed executive management programs at Stanford University and UCLA's Anderson Graduate School of Management. Rosanne is married to Jim Hartnett and they are the proud parents of Julia and Lydia Foust and Josh and Jake Hartnett.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to thank Rosanne Foust for twelve years of public service on the City Council of Redwood City. She will now relinquish to others the duties of diligent analysis and thoughtful commentary on the issues that shape her city each day. Her example sets a high standard for those who follow. Rosanne Foust led Redwood City with her heart, and its residents will forever benefit by that remarkable contribution to its future.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL  
JENNIFER WALTER

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Brigadier General Jennifer Walter on her retirement from the Iowa Air National Guard. In 2012, General Walter became the first female general officer in the history of the Iowa Air National Guard. She now retires with 40 years of dedicated service to the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard.

General Walter received her first commission of Second Lieutenant in 1986 after attending Officer Training School at the Academy of Military Science. Before becoming the first female general officer of the Iowa Air National Guard in 2012, General Walter served in numerous command positions, among them as the first female Iowa Air National Guard group commander, squadron commander, and non-medical colonel. General Walter has deployed in operations around the world, including Operation Southern Watch in Al Jaber, Kuwait, and as the 755th Air Expeditionary Group Commander with the Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan.

General Walter's military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Award, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War On Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Ribbon Short, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border, Air Force Longevity Service, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M Device (more than 37 years of service), Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, NATO medal, and the Iowa National Guard Meritorious Service Medal.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent General Walter in the United States Congress, and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for years of dedicated service to the United States of America. I invite my colleagues in the United States House or Representatives to join me in congratulating her on her retirement, and wishing her nothing but the best moving forward.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND  
LEGACY OF JOY MCDUFFIE

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor the life and legacy of Ms. Joy Wiley McDuffie, whose death on November 21st, 2015 at age 59 was a loss not only to her large and loving family and friends but to my hometown of Buffalo, New York where she was a true champion for fairness and equality in the city she loved so much.

A woman of courage and conviction, Joy McDuffie will be long remembered as a highly

respected and motivated community activist dedicated to social justice, fair housing and a better future for Buffalo's children.

Born and raised in Buffalo, Joy was the third of twelve children. She personified her belief in the value of life-long education as she earned her associate's and bachelor's degrees and eventually received her master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Buffalo at age 50. Her work ethic was indisputable as she served as a business analyst in the private sector, and put her experience and social skills to great success as the owner and operator of "Club Joy."

She would later use her experience as the owner of a development company that purchased and restored homes as a GIS analyst and housing counselor with the Western New York Law Center. In this capacity, Joy McDuffie brought real data and a real commitment to ensure increased opportunities and greater access for all those wanting to own their own home.

Her passion for stronger neighborhoods and no-nonsense approach to problem solving made her an ideal Chairperson for the Distressed Properties Task Force in the City of Buffalo. She was a force as, under her leadership, this committee was re-energized with a renewed focus on reducing vacant and abandoned properties in the city she fought for and helped make so much stronger.

COLONEL GLENN W. SANDERS

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Colonel Glenn W. Sanders for his past three years of dedicated service as a Legislative Liaison for the Army Reserve. I wish him well in his next assignment as an instructor at the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

Colonel Sanders is currently assigned as the Legislative Liaison for the 81st Regional Support Command at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. During the last three years, he supported Army Reserve units across the southeastern United States, meeting with Congressional staff and Federal, State and Local elected officials.

Prior to this assignment, Colonel Sanders served one year in the International Security Assistance Force Joint Command in Afghanistan, working as the Executive Officer to the Command's Operations Officer. From 2008 to 2011, he served on Capitol Hill as a Congressional Fellow and then as a Liaison in the Army House Liaison Division. His previous assignments include Mobilization Division Chief, Assistant Professor of Military Science, Battalion Operations Officer, Detachment Commander, Battery Commander, Squadron Fire Support Officer, Battery Executive Officer, Troop Fire Support Officer and Platoon Leader.

Colonel Sanders holds a Masters of Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College; a Masters of Public Administration from California State University, Northridge; a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California, Riverside; and a Certificate in Legislative Studies

from the Government Affairs Institute at Georgetown University.

He is a graduate of the Army War College, Reserve Component National Security Course, Defense Strategy Course, Command and General Staff College, and the Field Artillery Basic and Advanced Officer Courses.

His awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, United Nations Medal, NATO Medal and Army Staff Identification Badge. He is a recipient of the Order of Saint Maurice from the National Infantry Association.

I wish Colonel Sanders, his wife Kari and his daughters Kira and Kelli well as they move to Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEVE  
OKAMOTO

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 8, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Steve Okamoto for his four years of service on the Foster City City Council, and for his many significant contributions to our community.

During his term, Steve was instrumental in accomplishing many objectives that have shaped Foster City. The parks system was built out as Werder Park and Destination Park were completed this year. In 2014, the city's smoking ordinance was implemented, the implementation of the fire management shared services model with San Mateo and Belmont was completed, a gatekeeper ordinance for development projects was implemented, a synthetic softball/soccer field at Edgewater Park was completed, and a 15-acre site was sold and developed into the new Foster Square. In 2013, Phase III of the Levee Pedway Repair Project was completed, a synthetic soccer/baseball field at Sea Cloud Park and a synthetic soccer field/walking track at Port Royal Park were completed and finally the voters approved Business License Tax Measure U.

Additionally, Steve served on the Airport Community Roundtable, the Airport Land Use Committee, the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance, as the liaison to the San Mateo-Foster City Elementary School District, and as the liaison to the City's Parks and Recreation Commission.

Steve's commitment to the residents and community of Foster City has been unshakable. He has been a resident for over 34 years and he and his wife Diana have raised their family there. They are the proud parents of two grown children, Brad, 32 and Katie, 31.

Steve was born in San Francisco, attended Lowell High School, and graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in business. He had a successful career in the financial industry for almost four decades and then worked for the American Cancer Society for ten years raising tens of millions of dollars for the agency. When he was elected to the city council, he retired from the American Cancer Society so that he could devote all of his time and energy to his new responsibilities.

During his service, he's been a voice of reason and responsibility while on the city council, and a person deeply concerned about the



future of his community. I take special note of his concern about the impact of airport noise on the residents of Foster City. For several years, he has served on the San Francisco Airport Community Roundtable and worked closely with my office to reduce the number of overflights of jet aircraft approaching San Francisco International Airport. His work culminated in a recent agreement with the FAA that would, in part, have the FAA examine whether it is feasible to use a slightly different approach to the airport. If, at some point in the future, the residents of Foster City sleep better at night, they will have Steve Okamoto, in part, to thank for that outcome.

In his broader public service, Steve has for years educated our community about the civil rights tragedy that we know as the internment

of Japanese American citizens at the start of World War II. He and his committee of volunteers are actively raising funds to create a memorial at the site of the Tanforan Assembly Center that was the starting point for the transportation of Japanese Americans into the heartland of America during a time when racism and a failure of political leadership allowed our fellow citizens to be incarcerated for no reasons other than fear and bigotry. Steve was himself interned in his early years. America has since apologized for this historic injustice, and when the Tanforan Memorial is constructed it will be a lasting reminder in our community that we can never let anger and bigotry trample the civil rights of our fellow Americans.

Deeply dedicated to the dignity of seniors, Steve also serves as honorary chair of Komochi, San Mateo, a community service organization that delivers services in the Japanese tradition of respect and care for the elderly.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor an extraordinary public servant, human being and good friend. Steve Okamoto is one of the most conscientious people I know, and he has always dedicated himself entirely to any task at hand. When Steve speaks, our community listens. When we look amongst us for an outstanding citizen, we see Steve Okamoto. We will miss him in public life, but will certainly have his guidance through private actions for years to come.